



CONNECTED BY OUR
NATURE

BRENTFORD FC NATURE STRATEGY



Brentford FC is committed to taking active steps to promote environmental sustainability.

As a society, we are currently pushing the planet to the limit, exceeding the earth's planetary boundaries. This is not sustainable for our future.

At our club, we recognise that everything we do comes from nature - from the pitch we play on, to the clean air we breathe, down to the materials to make our kit and the ingredients grown for the food we eat and sell.

We want to ensure that we, as a club and our community, will continue to thrive. To do that, we must protect ourselves from the damaging effects of climate change.

This strategy focuses on our nature pillar and sets out how we will ensure that our impact improves season to season, and positively affects not only our club and fans, but our community and far beyond. Our strategy covers the period from now until 2030.

For clarity, nature refers to all animals, plants and things in the world that exist independently of people. Biodiversity is the variety of life on Earth in all its forms.

Our approach to sustainability is built around five elements:



MANAGEMENT & REPORTING



CLIMATE



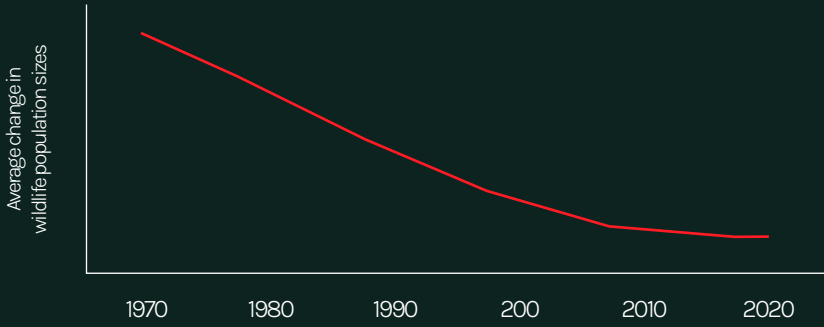
CIRCULARITY



NATURE



ENGAGEMENT



NATURE IS UNDER THREAT

Nature and biodiversity provide us with multiple benefits that are essential for us to live, such as clean air, fresh water and good quality soil for growing food. A natural environment can help us fight against climate change.

Sadly, the world is seeing a decline in plants, and animals are threatened by extinction. The destruction of biodiversity also reduces our ability to remove carbon from the atmosphere.

As a football club, we are nicknamed 'The Bees', so they remain close to our history and identity. Unfortunately, the numbers of bees are declining dramatically in the UK and across the world due to factors including disease, habitat loss, climate change and the use of pesticides. Along with our other objectives, our nature strategy focuses on increasing the habitats and resources that bees rely on to survive.

We are committed to regenerating natural habitats and helping create a healthy living environment.



Between 1970 and 2020, there was a **73% decline** in global species' population sizes.

WWF

1m

It is estimated that **one million of the eight million species of plants and animals is threatened with extinction**, known as the sixth mass extinction in the Earth's history.

unep.org



According to the UN, we are using the equivalent of **1.6 earths** to maintain our current way of life.

unep.org







The club is an innovator and leader, demonstrating that protecting nature is really part of the game.



Football, like nature, inspires passion, instils hope, strengthens commitment and creates a deep sense of community and belonging. It does not exist in isolation from nature. Every match is played on a living surface, shaped by soil, water, weather and biodiversity. The rhythms of the seasons through winter pitches, summer rains, and the quality of air and space around stadiums, all depend on functioning natural systems. Protecting nature underpins the conditions that make the game possible.

Brentford FC has shown a pragmatic and innovative approach, on and off the pitch. Through improving wildlife habitats around the Gtech, measuring biodiversity, promoting bee and pollinator conservation, and working with the local community, the club reflects the same discipline behind their football model: consistent, incremental gains and attention to detail.

Doing the basics well, season after season, while finding new edges in a challenging arena. By adopting the global Sports for Nature Framework and developing a Nature Strategy, Brentford FC is increasingly treating nature like team performance: setting clear targets, tracking results, and extending influence beyond the stadium into supply chains and among supporters.

In doing so, the club is an innovator and leader, demonstrating that protecting nature is really part of the game itself.



JAMES HARDCASTLE

Director, Protected and Conserved Area
International Union for Conservation of Nature





**Our collaboration...reflects the value of
bringing world class science, community, and
sport together to inspire action.**



As a neighbour, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew is pleased to support Brentford Football Club's Nature Strategy. We share a strong connection through place, community, and a responsibility to protect the natural environment, especially in urban landscapes.

Plants and fungi are the bedrock of all life on earth, yet biodiversity is declining at an unprecedented rate. At Kew, our mission - to understand and protect plants and fungi - drives our work to help reverse this loss, while engaging people in the importance of safeguarding the natural world.

Cities play a vital role in the future of biodiversity. Well-designed urban spaces provide important habitats for wildlife, but they also shape how people experience nature in their daily lives. Easy access to green spaces helps build our understanding of and support for conservation. We believe that it can also encourage people to make decisions that reduce harmful environmental impacts.

Our collaboration with the Bees, including my involvement on the club's Sustainability Advisory Board, reflects the value of bringing world class science, community, and sport together to inspire action.

Bees and other pollinators are a key indicator of ecosystem health, acting as a barometer of biodiversity. Their decline highlights the pressures facing nature, but they also offer a focus for hope and action. Supporting pollinators is something we can all contribute to through simple, practical steps, from planting to habitat creation. Brentford Football Club can help to lead by example - demonstrating how local institutions can make a meaningful difference for nature while inspiring the communities they serve.

Royal Botanic Gardens
Kew

DR PHILIP STEVENSON, PHD FRSC FRES

Professor of Plant Chemistry
Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

Member of Brentford FC Sustainability Advisory Board



OUR STRATEGY

We have developed a nature strategy setting out how we will ensure that our impact on biodiversity is positive and helps improve Brentford FC and beyond.

This strategy has been created with Greengage, a consultancy committed to building a greener future. Greengage played an instrumental role in challenging our solutions and making recommendations on how we can enhance nature and biodiversity up to 2030.

Our nature strategy focuses on three areas:



Nature on our sites



Nature in wider
decision-making



Nature in our local area



We are led by four objectives





NATURE ON OUR SITES

In creating this strategy, our first step was to measure the baseline biodiversity value for each of our sites, which meant taking account of what already exists. From this, we have identified a series of interventions that can help us enhance our biodiversity. This includes tree planting, planting shrubs and creating a new community garden. Our approach also included installing a series of artificial habitat features. While these features support locally important species, they do not improve our biodiversity score.

- **Bespoke solitary bee panels**
- **Insect posts/towers**
- **Bat boxes**
- **Bird boxes**
- **Reptile and amphibian shelter**
- **Hedgehog houses**

In particular, we commit to working towards securing the future of bees. This consists of creating bee friendly habitats whenever we make nature improvements, and to encourage our fans, community and stakeholders to do the same. We want to work with organisations who are dedicated to this cause and can support us with expertise and advice.



To understand how much nature we have around us, we hired ecologists to assess the habitats that exist on our sites. Below are the biodiversity score at our sites as of 2023-24.

BIODIVERSITY UNITS 2023/24

54.72

Total

1.99

GTECH COMMUNITY STADIUM

0.78

BEES SUPERSTORE

2.48

WHEATSHEAF PARK

49.47

ROBERT ROWAN PERFORMANCE CENTRE

We have used an indicator known as the Biodiversity Metric, which measures the value of biodiversity in a standardised way based on factors such as size, quality, location and type of habitats in the area.

In the UK, the Biodiversity Metric is a legal requirement that local authorities and property developers must use to measure their impact on nature. However, as this metric does not measure some of our other efforts to support nature, such as bird boxes and bat boxes, we will measure our impact both using the Biodiversity Metric and by measuring other actions that benefit nature.

LONG-TERM PLANNING

We have developed a set of principles for taking action at each of our sites in the long term.

GTECH COMMUNITY STADIUM



At Gtech Community Stadium, we aim to increase nature as much as possible every year, and create pockets of nature for our fans to enjoy on matchdays.

OUR COMMUNITY



In our community, we plan to work with local organisations to identify opportunities and take action to enhance nature.

WHEATSHEAF PARK



At Wheatshaf Park, the home venue for the club's B team and under-18s fixtures, we plan to collaborate with Thames Club to promote and enrich nature where possible.

ROBERT ROWAN PERFORMANCE CENTRE



At our training ground, we want to support nature, increasing biodiversity by over 10% to go beyond our planning requirements, and to add features that encourage wildlife to thrive.





TACKLING LIGHT POLLUTION

Gtech Community Stadium, Wicketsheaf Park and the Robert Rowan Performance Centre all have floodlights and grow lights which are used regularly. We are aware that they can generate areas of light spill.

Floodlights are essential to keeping pitches at the required standard outside of the typical grass growing seasons. They also help players see while they are playing and support our spectators to watch the on-pitch action. However, artificial lighting and the light spill are likely to have a detrimental effect not just on nocturnal species but also species active during the day.

We have identified measures that could be implemented to reduce this negative impact. These include:

- **Using trees as a buffer to reduce light spill beyond the pitches.**
- **Ensuring artificial lighting is only used when absolutely necessary.**
- **Continually reviewing the technology in this area and committing to moving to lower impact LED lighting once the efficacy is proven.**







NATURE IN WIDER DECISION- MAKING

As a club, we hope to make a significant impact in this space by taking nature into account in our decision making

The Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosure (TNFD) is a framework that helps organisations manage nature, including advising what they should report against. The TNFD provides companies with recommendations and a risk management and disclosure framework to identify, assess, manage and, where appropriate, disclose nature-related issues.

The TNFD is a framework we want to engage with as part of our work in nature. We have looked at their four pillars of recommendations (governance; strategy; risks & impact Management; and metrics & targets) and identified ways we can meet them going forward. These include:

- **Ensure Brentford's sustainability advisory board has sufficient expertise on nature and this is discussed at meetings with the board.**
- **Update Brentford's procurement processes to include nature related considerations.**
- **Analyse our procurement data to help focus value chain efforts.**
- **Complete a 'Locate, Evaluate, Assess, and Prepare' assessment to help us understand where we are dependent on nature, our impact on nature and the associated risks and opportunities in more detail.**





NATURE IN OUR LOCAL AREA

As a community club, our aim is not just to enhance the nature and biodiversity on our sites but also focus on our local area in the London boroughs of Hounslow and Spelthorne, where we are located.

Creating a positive effect in our community can only be achieved through collaboration. We have already hosted a series of workshops with key club staff and local stakeholders to understand where there are opportunities for us to co-ordinate biodiversity improvements together.

We have identified the following possible opportunities:

- **To support volunteer groups who will help install and maintain plants at Kew Bridge station.**
- **To support schools and Brentford FC Community Sports Trust to plant trees or build habitat features for wildlife.**
- **Consult experts from Kew Gardens to provide advice on suitable species mixes for all of the above.**





OUR WORK SO FAR

We have been proactively creating more green spaces, both on our stadium footprint and out in the community.

SPORTS FOR NATURE

Sports for Nature (S4N) is an initiative created by multiple organisations. It aims to deliver transformative action for nature across sports, by 2030 and beyond, enabling sports to champion nature and contribute to its protection and restoration. S4N provides a framework to help sporting organisations take positive actions in nature.

As a part of the initiative, sporting organisations are asked to work towards four principles:

- Protect nature and avoid damage to natural habitats and species
- Restore and regenerate nature wherever possible
- Understand and reduce risks to nature in supply chains
- Educate and inspire positive action for nature

Brentford is only one of two Premier League clubs that has signed up for S4N to formally commit our ambitions in nature (at the time of publication). By signing up to the S4N, we are able to hold ourselves accountable for our planned work.

The club will report on the progress against the four principles to Sports for Nature annually.



GTECH COMMUNITY GARDEN

In August 2024, we opened the Gtech Community Garden, a green space just outside our stadium, supported by official partner, Gtech and designed by Cultivate London. The garden is a space located on Lionel Road South near the steps to the west stand, which was created to cultivate nature within the community. It has almost 25 plant species. The garden is also a dedicated space where we honour and remember Brentford fans who are no longer with us.





MAGNOLIA GARDEN

In August 2025 we opened the Magnolia Garden, a green space outside our club shop. Previously this was a barren patch, which we have enhanced by planting bulbs and a magnolia tree, as well as installing a log seating area for our fans and community to enjoy on a matchday and beyond.

EXPERTISE IN OUR SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY GROUP

We regularly communicate with our Sustainability Advisory Group to get their feedback on ideas and use their expertise and knowledge. Dr Philip Stevenson, who is head of trait diversity and function at the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, sits on the group and advises us on nature.



NATURE AT ROBERT ROWAN PERFORMANCE CENTRE

As the Robert Rowan Performance Centre has developed, we have planted almost a hectare of wildflowers in the training ground. We have also introduced features to support wildlife, such as bird boxes and bat boxes.



ROBIN GROVE ORCHARD

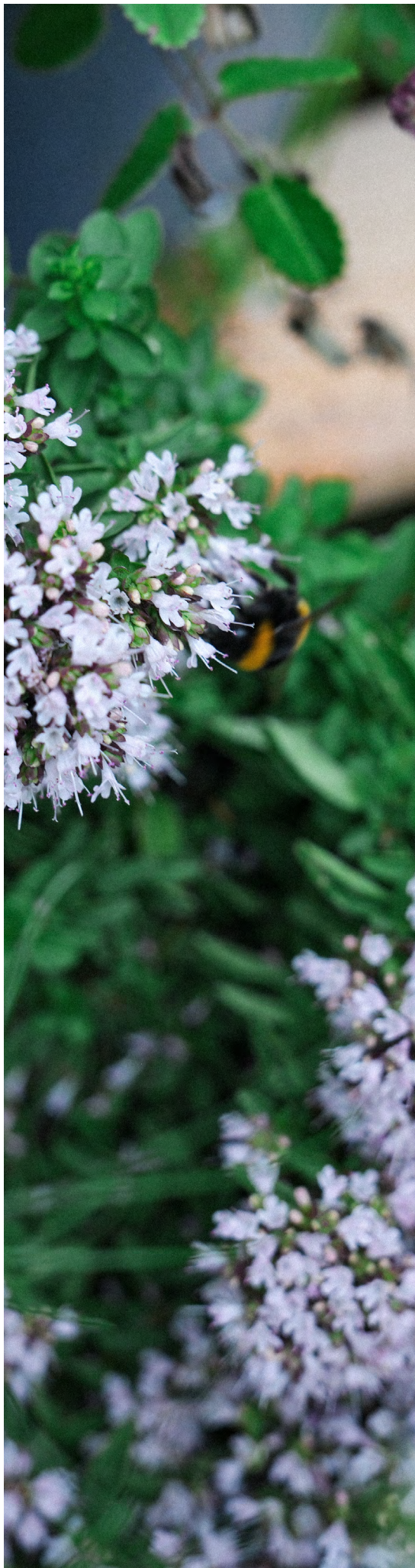
In March 2025, we worked with Hounslow Council to plant 14 apple and pear trees in Robin Grove Park with players, the mayor of Hounslow and students from Brentford School for Girls to give the community a place to visit and attract natural species.



BENCHES IN THE COMMUNITY

Connecting with nature is known to benefit our emotional, psychological and physical health. As part of the club's Talking is the Best Tactic campaign, where we are encouraging our community to open up about mental health, we have committed to installing a collection of benches in west London. We added our first bench in Robin Grove Park and have since installed another four in the community. The benches are a place for our community to share how they are feeling, speak to one another and signpost support to specialist mental health organisations for anyone who is struggling.





EVALUATING OUR WORK

In order to assess our work on this strategy, we commit to working with ecologists to undertake 'nature audits' across our sites annually. We have made a commitment to achieve measurable increases in nature value across all sites, year-on-year, relative to the baseline established in 2024.

We conducted a nature assessment in 2025, where our aim was to measure and report the current nature value across Brentford FC's sites and compare these values against the 2024 baseline level.

At each site, the assessment sought to:

- **Undertake a nature audit of existing habitats;**
- **Calculate the nature value using the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) Statutory Biodiversity Metric;**
- **Record the type and location of additional nature features present; and**
- **Identify and report on any year-on-year changes compared to the 2024 baseline.**

We commit to reporting on the outcome of these audits and comparing them to our baseline each year in our annual sustainability report, which will specify the biodiversity metric. We also plan to provide further detail on the work we have undertaken on nature on our sites and in the community.

